



ARIZONA CENTENNIAL

Mormon Tabernacle Choir Reception

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer
Saturday, February 11, 2012

First, let me thank ...

- Steve Rizley,**
- Elder Tad Callister,**
- President Mac Christensen,**
- Music directors,**
- Sponsors,**
- And everyone responsible for allowing Arizona's Centennial to be especially blessed by this visit of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.**

I know the choir goes by many names:

- American Icon**
- Symbol of Freedom**
- Holiday Tradition**
- The greatest choir in the world**

And -- my favorite -- named by President Ronald Reagan at his inauguration in 1981 – America's Choir.

It is certainly all of those things.

But, what stands out to me most of all is the choir itself.

Made up of 360 men and women from different backgrounds and different professions the choir is a magical mix of lives and voices -- bound by an abiding faith.

They remind me of those Arizonans 100 years ago – native-born and coming from all parts of the nation and world – who found their opportunity to succeed or fail in the last great frontier of the continental United States and built this great state.

One voice doesn't make a choir.

One pioneer doesn't make a state.

But, when tied with others, the power and the beauty grows beyond our imagination.

In closing, let me just add that music has been defined in many ways – love in search of a word --- the lost chord that strayed from heaven – the speech of angels – or the greatest good that mortals know.

However it is defined, it is here with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, and we are deeply grateful for that wonderful blessing.

Thank you.